



NEWS

RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: July 3, 2001
6740

Release Number: 01-31

Internet Address: www.sba.gov/news/indexheadline.html

Contact: Nancy Singer (202) 205-

SBA CENTERS OFFER NEW SOFTWARE TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES START OR GROW

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration today announced that its small business clients will have access to a series of new software tools at locations nationwide to help them start or grow their businesses, thanks to a donation by the Microsoft Corporation.

Beginning in August, the SBA's One-Stop Capital Shops (OSCSs), Business Information Centers (BICs), Women's Business Centers (WBCs) and Tribal Business Information Centers (TBICs) will receive \$700,000 worth of cutting-edge business software applications from Microsoft.

"This donation significantly expands the resources we have available for our BICs, OSCSs, TBICs and WBCs, and we are delighted to be working with Microsoft to ensure that small businesses have the opportunity to use the latest in technology," said Gail McGrath, acting associate deputy administrator for Entrepreneurial Development. **"The SBA is focused on providing small businesses with the resources, training and information they need to be successful."**

The SBA's counseling and technical assistance centers provide free on-site counseling, training courses and workshops to small business clients in areas that include business planning, marketing and sales, product expansion and exporting. The centers have resources that address a broad variety of business start-up and development needs. They also offer numerous research materials, including business and industry publications, CD-ROMs, databases, and the latest in software and hardware to assist small business owners. The new software packages are the latest additions to the list of tools that the SBA makes available to small business clients.

The Microsoft donation to the SBA includes Office XP, Publisher version 2002, FrontPage version 2002, Windows 2000 Professional, Windows 2000 Server and Small Business Server 2000. To find out more about the availability of the software, contact your local SBA center listed at www.sba.gov/services.

For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK-SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

###